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order and law, and administer justice to all, the soldiery have degenerated into a military mob, are the most open violaters of law and order, and daily heap insult and injury upon the people of the territory; and as matters now stand, the civil government is powerless to grant them redress. One half of the captains of companies do not know the number of their men, nor where they are to be found; and they themselves are to be seen nightly in fandangoes, and even less reputable places of dissipation. The soldiers are never drilled or mustered, and from the highest officer to the private soldier, all is insubordination, misrule and confusion. About one-fifth of the whole command have died from the effects of dissipation."

Military Justice. — "Quite an *interesting* scene," says an officer, writing from Buena Vista, Sept. 27, 1847, and quoted in the Watertown Journal, N. Y., "in the Inspector-General's office yesterday. About twenty Mexicans had been arrested for murdering one of the Arkansas cavalry. Not having sufficient evidence to convict *any* of them, Gen. Wool ordered eight men to be selected from the crowd, *two* of whom were to be *shot* unless they would name the murderer. Accordingly they made a sort of lottery, from which the Mexicans drew for their lives; and a curious spectacle it was to see the *poor fellows* come up and *cross* themselves before drawing. There are several in the provost guard for various offences, and I expect some fine morning we shall have a rare time of *hanging* or *shooting*."

Our own men seem at times to fare little better. "A fact," says a correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune at Washington, "has come to my knowledge, of the most outrageous treatment of a free citizen of the United States, out on the coast of the California. An honest, frugal Irishman had served the United States for four years as a marine. He had saved about \$300 at the expiration of his enlistment, with which he wished to see and comfort his wife and family, from whom he had been long separated. He requested to be permitted to go on shore. In place of this, however, he was ordered into irons, and put in the 'brigg.' Still insisting on his right to go on shore, he was ordered to strip. He refused. He was forcibly stripped, and *ignominiously flogged*. He was flogged by order of Commodore Biddle, more than a fortnight after his term of enlistment had expired. They might just as well have flogged Gen. Cass, or Jefferson Davis; but they are *high-bred gentlemen*. This war is as detrimental to our liberties as to the nationality of Mexico."

MISCELLANEOUS.

PETITIONS FOR PEACE WITH MEXICO. — Petitions for this purpose have, we perceive, been continually presented in both Houses of Congress from the commencement of the session. They come from all parts of the country, except the extreme Southwest, that great moral sink and sewer of the nation; many from the West, and some even from the South, particularly North Carolina and Georgia. The largest one was signed by nine thousand Quakers, and another was from the Unitarians, pleading for peace expressly on *Christian* grounds, signed by nearly three thousand, measuring, when unrolled on the floor of the Senate, some thirty-six yards. We could wish that *all* denominations in the land had done the same; and, if they had in equal proportion, there would have been nearly *HALF A MILLION Christians* pleading *as Christians* for peace with Mexico. Would such a demonstration, entirely aloof from party politics, have been powerless?

The House voted to print the petition from the Quakers; and when that question was under discussion, Mr. Palfrey stated that he had on hand petitions for the same object from four thousand persons.

THE PRESS ON PEACE.—The press is publishing, in comparison with past years, a vast deal on the subject—sermons, pamphlets, speeches, anecdotes, essays from correspondents, occasional articles from editors. Still not half, scarce a tenth part as much is said *in the right way* as ought to be said, and may continually, “from Dan unto Beersheba.” Even the religious papers, with a few exceptions, are doing only a small part of their duty on the subject; and some of them treat it in a way to leave us really in doubt how they regard this war! Most politicians, whether in Congress or in the editorial chair, plead for peace, if they plead at all, in a way so thoroughly partizan, as to spoil nearly all they say. Hardly one speech, yet made in Congress against this war, is of any real permanent use to our cause. Many good men, especially in public life, seem anxiously waiting for the return of peace to let them speak out their real sentiments without injury to their usefulness! For this reason, many ministers will not preach, and some religious editors will not publish, anything decisive or effective, in the present emergency, lest, forsooth, they should lose their influence! Influence? Why, such men have on *this subject* no influence to lose. Yet these are the men most likely to tell us, “The gospel will do away war. Preach the gospel, and you’ll need nothing more.” Well, they preach the gospel from their pulpits, and through their papers; but, *as* preached by them, what good does it do in the present case? They tell us they have a sovereign remedy; but, when we ask its application to the terrible malady now upon us, they shrink, and tell us we must not apply it until the disease is cured, or the patient is dead, i. e., until the war is over.

ENCOURAGEMENT.—We have, from different and distant parts of the country, indications of a steadily increasing and extending interest in our cause. We might, if we had space, give, in proof of this, extracts from letters continually received at our office. The public, especially Christian men, are opening their eyes more and more to the subject; and our Society *ought* to have forthwith the means of giving them ample information.

AN ADDRESS TO THE TEACHERS AND PROFESSORS OF CHRISTIANITY IN THE UNITED STATES, ON THE LAWFULNESS OF WAR—issued by the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends of New York, dated Jan. 4, 1848, has been received too late for any extract in our present number; but, as an able and very well argued Appeal in the best spirit, we commend it to the special consideration of all Christians, and are glad to see it finding its way entire into some of our religious newspapers. We wish that all such papers would publish it, and that every follower of the Prince of Peace would give it a serious and prayerful perusal.

PROSPECTS OF PEACE.—Of these we cannot now (Feb. 12) speak with any confidence. Still, after carefully comparing all the variety of contradictory rumors afloat for the last few weeks, we cannot resist the con-

viction, that we are likely to have little more fighting; that our government might, if it chose, secure in one month a treaty of peace substantially on the same terms it proposed last summer; that the reluctance of Congress to grant supplies for carrying on the war to the subjugation of all Mexico, will in time force the executive to conclude a peace; that the outlines of such a treaty have already been *informally* communicated to the President; and that the great obstacle to an immediate termination of this war and recall of our troops, is found in the struggles of both our political parties for ascendancy in the next presidential election. But for this we should probably have had peace long ago.

OUR OWN OPERATIONS.—These are pretty much as usual, except that we have recently commissioned two new agents, one as a travelling lecturer, and the other as a local agent to plead our cause in the vicinity of his residence. The Rev. H. B. PIERPONT is now in Michigan, and meets with a very cordial welcome, and an unexpected degree of success. The Rev. W. H. DALRYMPLE has been employed the last quarter in the interior of this State, and gives a very favorable report of the reception he met. Our tried and ardent friend, Rev. A. FOSTER, will, we hope, enlist soon in our service again. The movements of our Secretary, though somewhat curtailed by sickness, may be inferred somewhat from the receipts acknowledged in this number.

Publications.—We are steadily increasing the number of the *Advocate*; and we have just issued another edition (the third this year) of the *Peace Manual*, 4000 copies, mainly for gratuitous circulation.

FOREIGN AND OTHER OPERATIONS.—Our co-workers in England are steadily pursuing their work, and are likely to have it increased on their hands by the present and prospective state of things in Europe. From the Christian Citizen and other sources, we are glad to learn, that the Leaguers are at work on both sides of the Atlantic for peace, as *one* of their objects, with a good degree of zeal and success. Most of their efforts in *this* country are now directed to peace alone; and so far we wish them God-speed; though we find Mr. Burritt, in his second quarterly report of the British Branch, speaking of the League itself as "*a World's Society for the Abolition of all War, Slavery and kindred systems of violence and wrong throughout the world.*"

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*Receipts since the last acknowledgment to February 5th.*

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|---------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <i>Boston</i> , A Friend, | \$10 00 | <i>Boston</i> , Col. in Trem. Temple,            | 8 00        |
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